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ATG, TTC, CCC, AGC, ACC, TGG, TAC, and GTG; such that said
synthetic DNA coding sequence has at least about 60% G+C content; and

(c) synthesizing said DNA coding sequence.

Please add new claims 118-130 as shown below.

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118. (new) A synthetic DNA coding sequence that encodes a *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) insecticidal protein comprising a sufficient number of the following codons: GCC, CGC, AAC, GAC, TGC, CAG, GAG, GGC, CAC, ATC, CTG, AAG, ATG, TTC, CCC, AGC, ACC, TGG, TAC, and GTG, such that said synthetic DNA coding sequence has at least about 60% G+C content.

119. (new) A synthetic DNA coding sequence according to claim 118, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* insecticidal protein is Cry1A(b).

120. (new) A synthetic DNA coding sequence according to claim 118, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* insecticidal protein is Cry1B.

121. (new) A chimeric gene comprising a heterologous promoter sequence operatively linked to the synthetic DNA coding sequence of claim 118.

122. (new) A recombinant vector comprising the chimeric gene of claim 121.

123. (new) A transgenic plant cell comprising the chimeric gene of claim 121.

124. (new) A transgenic maize plant comprising the transgenic plant cell of claim 123.

125. (new) Transgenic seed from the transgenic maize plant according to claim 124, wherein said transgenic seed comprises the synthetic DNA coding sequence that encodes a *Bacillus thuringiensis* insecticidal protein.

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126. (new) A method of controlling insect pests, comprising contacting the insect pests with the transgenic maize plant according to claim 124.

127. (new) The method according to claim 126, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* insecticidal protein is Cry1A(b).

128. (new) The method according to claim 126, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* insecticidal protein is Cry1B.

129. (new) The method according to claim 126, wherein said insect pests are lepidopteran insect pests.

130. (new) The method according to claim 129, wherein said lepidopteran insect pests are European corn borers.